

Message Text

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: BGEN, UR, US

SUBJECT: ISSUES FOR JOINT COMMERCIAL COMMISSION MEETING--FACILITIES
FOR U.S. COMPANIES IN MOSCOW

USDOC FOR BEWT/DOWNEY

TREASURY FOR PARSKY

REF: MOSCOW 4108

1. AS REPORTED REFTEL, SOVIET PROGRESS IN SATISFYING OFFICE/
APARTMENT REQUIREMENTS OF ACCREDITED U.S. COMPANIES DURING PERIOD
SINCE LAST COMMERCIAL COMMISSION MEETING HAS BEEN DISAPPOINTING.
AS FAR AS APARTMENT SITUATION CONCERNED, CRUX OF PROBLEM APPEARS
TO BE CONSTRUCTION DEFECTS IN BUILDING ON SERPUKHOVSKIY VAL (NEAR
DONSKOI MONASTERY) WHICH HAVE PREVENTED UPDK FROM TAKING POSSESSION
OF BUILDING. LATEST DEADLINE FOR ALLOCATION OF SPACE, AFTER AT
LEAST FOUR OTHERS HAVE PASSED, IS END OF APRIL. ON OFFICE SPACE
FRONT, TRADE/ECONOMIC COUNCIL AND GE HAVE MOVED INTO PERMANENT
QUARTERS SINCE LAST MEETING. CATERPILLAR IS WORKING OUT OF
APARTMENT WHICH DOUBLES AS RESIDENCE OF REPRESENTATIVE. OXY
SHOULD MOVE INTO PERMANENT QUARTERS WITHIN TWO WEEKS, AND
HEWLETT-PACKARD, ENGLEHARD AND CATERPILLAR HAVE BEEN GIVEN SPACE
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IN POKROVSKIY BUL'VAR OFFICE BUILDING. THIS LEAVES SEVEN

ACCREDITED COMPANIES WHICH HAVE NOT BEEN GIVEN OFFICE SPACE.
OTHERS (THREE BANKS, AND PANAM) ARE SATISFIED TO REMAIN IN
PRESENT QUARTERS.

2. ALTHOUGH THERE IS NO INDICATION, THUS FAR, THAT SOVIETS ARE
GIVING US COMPANIES LESS FAVORABLE TREATMENT THAN OTHER FOREIGN
COMPANIES ARE RECEIVING, EMBASSY BELIEVES WE HAVE AMPLE REASON TO
EXPRESS CONCERN OVER SLOW PACE AT WHICH SOVIETS ARE PROVIDING
OFFICE SPACE AND APARTMENTS FOR ACCREDITED COMPANIES. IN MAKING
SUCH A PRESENTATION, IT WOULD SEEM APPROPRIATE FOR U.S.
REPS TO CALL PARTICULAR ATTENTION TO POSITIVE ROLE WHICH DEPARTMENT
OF STATE HAS CONSISTENTLY PLAYED IN SECURING NECESSARY APPROVALS
FOR ACQUISITION OF CONNECTICUT AVENUE PROPERTY FOR SOVIET TRADE
REPRESENTATION AND IN HELPING AMTORG AND KAMA TRADE PURCHASING
COMMISSION.

STOESSEL

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